Some Maryland Stream-gaging Stations and Monitoring Wells Could be Discontinued in 2004

Possible shortages in the operating funds for State agencies during fiscal year 2004 and the following state fiscal years, may result in a loss of up to 50 percent of the state-wide ground-water monitoring network and several stream gages currently being monitored by the U.S. Geological Survey may have to be discontinued.

Each county in the State of Maryland has monitoring wells that may also have to be discontinued due to these funding cuts. These monitoring wells, several of which have been monitored for 50 or more years, have been used to monitor climatic responses and human-induced changes in ground-water levels. For example, data collected at these sites have been used to monitor the extent of pumping effects regionally, as well as locally, and recharge to surface-water bodies.

Several of the stream gages have been operating for 50 or more years, and have been used in Statewide analyses to determine flooding or drought probabilities (see table below). Data collected at these sites have also been used for highway bridge/culvert design and water-supply planning and management.

USGS has matching funds (up to 50% of the operational cost) to continue the operation of these sites. Any Federal/State/local entity interested in helping the USGS continue measuring of any of the wells or stream gages should contact the following:

Monitoring wells: Doug Yeskis at 410-238-4207 (e-mail djyeskis@usgs.gov) Streamflow gages: Bob James at 410-238-4205 (e-mail rwjames@usgs.gov)

	Station Number	Station Name	Total Number of Years	Year Data Collection Began
1	01485500	Nassawango Creek near Snow Hill, MD 54		1949
2	01486500	Beaverdam Creek near Salisbury, MD 46		1929
3	0148471320	Birch Branch at Showell, MD	4	1999
4	01490000	Chicamacomico Creek near Salem, MD	29	1951
5	01491500	Tuckahoe Creek near Ruthsburg, MD	7	1951
6	01492500	Sallie Harris Creek near Carmichael, MD 7		1951
7	01594526	Western Branch at Upper Marlboro, MD 15 15		1985
8	01609000	Town Creek near Oldtown, MD 22 19		1928
9	01613000 Potomac River at Hancock, MD		71	1932
10	01639500 Big Pipe Creek at Bruceville, MD 56		56	1947
11	01643500	Bennett Creek at Park Mills, MD	47	1948

	Station Number	Station Name	Web Address
1	01485500	Nassawango Creek near Snow Hill, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01485500&agency_cd=USGS
2	01486500	Beaverdam Creek near Salisbury, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01486500&agency_cd=USGS
3	0148471320	Birch Branch at Showell, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=0148471320&agency_cd=USGS
4	01490000	Chicamacomico Creek near Salem, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01490000&agency_cd=USGS
5	01491500	Tuckahoe Creek near Ruthsburg, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01491500&agency_cd=USGS
6	01492500	Sallie Harris Creek near Carmichael, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01492500&agency_cd=USGS
7	01594526	Western Branch at Upper Marlboro, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01594526&agency_cd=USGS
8	01609000	Town Creek near Oldtown, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01609000&agency_cd=USGS
9	01613000	Potomac River at Hancock, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01613000&agency_cd=USGS
10	01639500	Big Pipe Creek at Bruceville, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01639500&agency_cd=USGS
11	01643500	Bennett Creek at Park Mills, MD	http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=01643500&agency_cd=USGS